



# Proclamation

## Montgomery County Maryland

**WHEREAS,** Ms. Rosa Louise McCauley Parks is an American hero. Her courage and moral clarity in the face of bigotry and oppression highlighted the Civil Rights Movement and inspired millions to stand up for fundamental fairness; and

**WHEREAS,** on December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her seat to a white man on a Montgomery Alabama bus, and her silent, determined defiance gave voice to millions in their fight against injustice and intolerance; and

**WHEREAS,** Ms. Parks' arrest sparked the December 5th boycott of city buses by 42,000 African Americans, which helped changed the course of America; and

**WHEREAS,** this act was called the Montgomery Bus Boycott which lasted 381 days and ended on December 21, 1956 with the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in November 13, 1956 that segregation on city buses was unconstitutional; and

**WHEREAS,** Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had formed the Montgomery Improvement Association and led the mass movement of the bus boycott propelling the nonviolent resistance into what would be called the Civil Rights Movement; and

**WHEREAS,** Rosa Parks' heroism that day showed that one person can change the course of history and inspire the change in the hearts of a nation. She is remembered as the mother of the Civil Rights Movement; and during her life she said, "I'd like for everybody to remember me as a person who wanted to be free."

**NOW, THEREFORE, DO WE,** Marc Elrich, as County Executive, and Sidney Katz, as County Council President of Montgomery County, Maryland, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, December 1, 2020 as

### ROSA PARKS DAY

in Montgomery County. We urge all our residents to remember Ms. Parks' unshakable commitment to a better world and her fearless will to battle injustice at tremendous risk to herself for the sake of the greater good. We must continue the movement toward a more fair and just society for all.



Signed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of December in the year 2020

MARC ELRICH  
County Executive

SIDNEY KATZ  
Council President